

REMARKS

The Examiner objected claims 2 and 21 as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Li (Li *et al.* US 6,911,360) in view of Kobayashi (US 5,083,183).

In a telephonic conference between the Examiner and Applicant's representative Khoi D. Nguyen on February 26, 2007, Applicant's representative Khoi D. Nguyen informed the Examiner of Applicant's offers to place the application in condition for allowance by:

- (i) rewriting claim 2 in independent form including all of the limitations of rejected base claim 1 (note: objected-to claim 21 depends from claim 2), and
- (ii) canceling ALL rejected and withdrawn claims 1 and 3-20.

In response, the Examiner accepted the Applicant's offers and requested that Applicants file a Response doing the above mentioned things. Then, the Examiner would make sure that a Notice of Allowance is issued soon.

Therefore, Applicants hereby file this Response per the Examiner's request.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

Date: 02/27/2007

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